उठाया गया था। चीन की ओर से यह बात व्यक्त की गई कि तिब्बत स्वायत्त क्षेत्र (टी ए आर) में संबंधित प्राधिकारियों से परामर्श किया गया है जिसके अनुसार उस क्षेत्र में अतिरिक्त मार्ग बनाए जाने में कठिनाई होगी क्योंकि वह क्षेत्र संवदेनशील और अर्ध-विकसित है। चीनी दल का यह भी विचार था कि प्रस्तावित मार्ग लम्बा होने के साथ-साथ सड़क, संचार, आवास और अन्य अवसंरचनात्मक-सुविधाओं से भी वंचित रहेगा।

Development of places of tourist interest in U.P.

770. SHRI RAM NATH KOVIND: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have formulated any plan to develop places of tourist interest in Uttar Pradesh during the current year, if so, the details thereof; and

(b) the names of such places which are to be developed?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA KUMAR JENA): (a) and (b) The formulation of plans for the development of tourism in any particular State is the responsibility of the State Government. The Department of Tourism provides financial assistance for the implementation of specific projects on the basis of proposals received from them and the merits of each case. For the year 1997-98, the Department of Tourism, Government of India has prioritised 21 projects at an estimated cost of Rs. 412.50 lakhs for financial assistance to the State Government. These projects are located at Agra, Dudhva, Fatehpur, Haridwar, Etah, Kushinagar, Lakhimpur Kheri, Lucknow, Mathura, Pipalwaha, Rishikesh, Sarnath, Vrindavan, Uttarkashi and Auli.

Financial Assistance for Durga Puja in West Bengal

771. SHRI BRATIN SENGUPTA: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether the national festival of West Bengal 'Durga Puja' is on the identified list of fairs and festivals of Department of Tourism;

(b) if so, the amount of central financial assistance extended for publicity of Durga Puja; and

(c) if not, what is the criteria adopted for Central financial assistance?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA KUMAR JENA): No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Central financial assistance is provided on the basis of examination of specific proposals received from various State Governments. No proposal for central assistance for publicity of Durga Puja was received.

Plans of tourists interest in Orissa

772. SHRI RAHASBIHARI BARIK. Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) the names of places of tourist interest in Orissa which are visited by foreign tourists;

(b) the steps taken to assist the State Government to develop the infrastructure for the foreign tourists in those places of tourist interest;

(c) the schemes/programmes proposed thereon for Ninth Plan; and

(d) the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF PARLIAMENTARY AFFAIRS AND MINISTER OF TOURISM (SHRI SRIKANTA KUMAR JENA): (a) The places of tourist interest in Orissa which are popular with foreign tourists are:—Bhubaneswar,

Puri, Konarak, Rourkela, Gopalpur, Chilka lake, Chandipur on sea, Simlipal, Cuttack etc.

(b) to (d) Department of Tourism has priortised 30 projects/schemes for providing financial assistance of about Rs. 764.00 lakhs during current year 1997-98 for the development of tourism in Orissa. These projects are located at various places including those visited by foreign tourits.

The following new circuits have also been identified in Orissa for intensive development of tourism.

1. Bhubaneswar-Lalitgiri-Ratnagiri-Udaygiri-Kendra Parha-Chand Bali-Bhadrak (Sun Temple).

2. Harishankar-Narsinghanath-Hirakud-Sambalpur-Bed Vyas (Gandhamardhan Circuit).

3. Swaranchuda Circuit —Chandipur-Chandaneswar-Panchelingeswar-Simlipal Sanctuary-Khiching.

4. Koraput-Arakku Valley-Nandapur-Gupteshwar-Rayaghda (Panchbati Circuit).

विदेशी पर्यटकों का पांच सितारा होटलों के स्थान पर सस्ते होटलों में ठहरना

773. **श्री राम जेठमलानी:** क्या पर्यटन मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या सरकार ने विदेशों से भारत आने वाले पर्यटकों की औसत वार्षिक संख्या का पता लगाया है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी संख्या क्या है और यह संख्या विश्व के कुल पर्यटकों की संख्या का कितने प्रतिशत है;

(ग) क्या सरकार ने इस बात का भी पता लगाया है कि विदेशी पर्यटक महंगे पांच सितारा होटलों में ठहरने की अपेक्षा छोटे और सस्ते होटलों में ठहरते हैं; और

(घ) यदि हां, तो सस्ते होटलों तथा महंगे होटलों में ठहरने वाले पर्यटकों के औसत के संबंध में सरकार का क्या आकलन है?

संसदीय कार्य मंत्री तथा पर्यटन मंत्री (श्री श्रीकान्त जेना): (क) और (ख) वर्ष 1995 और 1996 के दौरान विदेशों से भारत आए पर्यटकों की संख्या के साथ-साथ पूरे विश्व में पर्यटकों के आवागमन की संख्या और उसमें भारत की भागीदारी का प्रतिशत इस प्रकार है:—

वर्ष	पर्यटक विश्व	आगमन (हजार में) भारत	विश्व में भारत की भागीदारी का प्रतिशत
1995	566384	2123.683	0.37
1996	591864	2287.860	0.39

(ग) और (घ) वर्ष 1988-89 में इस विभाग द्वारा भारत आने वाले पर्यटकों पर कराए गए सर्वेक्षण के आधार पर यह पाया गया कि 40—60% पर्यटक सुविधासम्पन्न होटलों में ठहरते हैं, 30—40% पर्यटक कुछ कम कीमत के होटलों में ठहरते हैं और 20—30% पर्यटक विभिन्न स्थानों पर कम खर्चीले श्रेणी के होटलों में ठहरते हैं। विदेशों से भारत आने वाले पर्यटकों के भारत में ठहरने की अवधि का औसत 30 दिन है।

Import of 11 containers of Chivas Regal Whisky by duty free shops of ITDC

774. SHRI AMAR SINGH: Will the Minister of TOURISM be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that duty free shops of ITDC at International Airports had imported 11 containers of Chivas Regal Whisky from U.S. based Seagram distillery at a cost of 12.40 crores despite the fact that ITDC had an inventory of Rs. 4.85 crores worth foreign whisky at that time;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof including the reasons for purchasing such a huge quantity of Whisky;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the Vigilance Department of ITDC had conducted inquiry into this matter; and if so, the details of the findings in this regard; and

(d) what action Government have taken against the officials concerned in this case?